

COMMITTEE ON INSPECTION AND OBSERVATION

Skype meeting 21 May starting 14:00 Norwegian time

Draft annotated agenda**1. Adoption of agenda and review of documents****2. NAMMCO Observation Scheme**

The purpose of this item is to pinpoint remaining issues that needs to be considered as a result of the new Section B including guidelines of the NAMMCO inspection and Observation Scheme – document NAMMCO/C/O-2019-02-02. As a minimum the meeting should agree on a way forward so that the issues can be resolved at the meeting in October 2019.

CO has previously agreed to clarify national regulations regarding safety issues at sea i.e. find out what kind of requirements exists regarding having people on board vessels. Also at the short meeting held on 4 April following Council 27 members agreed to find out what kind of insurance might apply to their observers.

a) Qualification requirements for observer candidates

The existing template for observer candidate's CV should be reviewed to see if it needs adjustments – document NAMMCO/C/O-2019-02-03.

b) Safety issues; equipment, training, insurances

The question is two-folded:

- *Defining what kind/type/level of equipment/training/insurance?*
- *Identify which body is responsible for securing that the candidates have the required levels as defined above: Is it the Party nominating the observer, do hunters have any responsibilities or is it NAMMCO?*

Section B: article 9 states: Member countries together with NAMMCO concur to take appropriate action to ensure safe working conditions,..... consistent with international standards and guidelines.

Upon request IMO responded (see CO report February 2019, item 2, p 5):

Hunting vessels are responsible for having the required equipment like life suits for observers.

Q: applies to NO and its whaling and NO sealing vessels, how do we deal with GI and FO situation? What about other kind of equipment like gloves, footwear +++ defined as essential for safety and safe working conditions?

The following is a compilation of the replies we have received from some of the Parties to the email sent 12 March 2019 requesting information on what kind of insurance requirements the national fisheries observers or inspectors have?

Safety at sea:

IS: *national fisheries inspectors have to undergo a basic specialist training course on safety and rescue at sea at Icelandic Association for Search and Rescue (ICE-SAR). During their work they are equipped with life suit and knowledge on how to use safety equipment on board.*

Q: *do they get to keep the life suit?*

GI (email 5 Februar 2019 on international standards and guidelines)